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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 023560

20
ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - VLTOMSETH:MFG
APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS
EA/P - MSMITH
OSD/PA - LTC BARR
OSD/ISA - MR. ABRAMOWITZ
---------- 123820
R 010141Z PEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 023560

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, TH, PFOR

SUBJECT: US FORCE LEVELS IN THAILAND

REF: A. BANGKOK 1429; B. STATE 003604 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE OUR USE OF THE AUTHORIZED US MILITARY MANPOWER LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY 27,000 (26,667) WOULD BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE LEVEL OF 25,000 PERSONNEL YOU HAVE GIVEN TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ON BACKGROUND, WE PREFER TO STICK WITH THE AUTHORIZED FIGURE OF 27,000. WE ALSO NOTE FBIS TRANSLATION OF THAI DOMESTIC SERVICE JANUARY 23 REPORT ON KRIANGSAK'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS JANUARY 22 USED 27,000 LEVEL.

2. WE BELIEVE THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN NUMBERS CAN BE EXPLAINED DUE TO THE VARIANCE IN DAILY STRENGTHS. PERSONNEL

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WHO ARE ON TDY OR LEAVE OUTSIDE THAILAND AND THE ATTRITION
OF PCS PERSONNEL WHO ARE NOT TO BE REPLACED (HEADQUARTERS,

SUPPORT AND SAC) ACCOUNT FOR THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE
AUTHORIZED LEVEL OF 26,667 AND THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF
PERSONNEL IN-COUNTRY ON A GIVEN DAY. AS NOTED IN REF B,
WE PREFER TO USE FORMER IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF OUR
MILITARY PRESENCE.

3. IN THE EVENT YOU GET QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN FIGURE WE ARE USING AND WHAT YOU PROVIDED ON
BACKGROUND, SUGGEST YOU RESPOND BY POINTING OUT THAT
27,000 LEVEL WAS AGREED TO LAST MARCH AND THAT LOWER IN-
COUNTRY STRENGTH AT A GIVEN POINT IN TIME CAN BE ACCOUNTED
FOR BY SUCH THINGS AS TDY AND LEAVE OUTSIDE THAILAND. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 01 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: MARR, PFOR, TH, US
To: BANGKOK INFO CINCPAC
PHNOM PENH
SAIGON
Type: TE
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